



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

### **Agricultural Weather Highlights - Tuesday - October 29, 2002**

- ***In the West***, the combination of very cold weather and limited soil moisture is slowing ***Northwestern*** winter wheat development, although beneficial rain and snow showers are developing. Elsewhere in the region, including ***California and the Southwest***, cool, dry weather favors autumn fieldwork.
- ***On the Plains***, very cold weather continues to inhibit winter wheat growth across the ***northern half of the region***, although snow is providing a beneficial boost in topsoil moisture. Meanwhile, mild, dry weather is returning to the ***southern Plains***, aiding recently soaked open-boll cotton and permitting a limited return to fieldwork.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, cold weather across the ***upper Midwest*** continues to limit evaporation and hamper corn and soybean harvest activities. Meanwhile across the ***southern and eastern Corn Belt***, including the ***Ohio Valley***, rain is slowing fieldwork but further improving soil moisture reserves for winter wheat development.
- ***In the South***, overnight rainfall totaled generally one-half inch or less in the ***Delta***, but was sufficient to cause renewed soybean and cotton harvest delays in some areas. Meanwhile, torrential rainfall is diminishing across the ***western Gulf Coast region***, but lowland flooding persists in the wake of early-week rainfall that totaled 8 inches or more in parts of ***southeastern Texas and southwestern Louisiana***. Farther east, rain in the ***Atlantic Coast region*** continues to slow fieldwork but further reduce long-term precipitation deficits.

**Outlook:** Rain will accompany a disturbance across the ***Ohio Valley and Mid-Atlantic States***, while a tropical airmass will provide showers and thunderstorms to the ***Southeast and eastern Gulf Coast region***. Farther north, a low-pressure system along the leading edge of bitterly cold air will trigger periods of rain and snow in the ***central and northern Plains***, while dry, mild weather will prevail in the ***southern Plains and Southwest***. Below-normal temperatures and occasional light snow are expected in the ***Pacific Northwest and northern Rockies***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for November 3-7 calls for above-normal precipitation in the ***Pacific Northwest*** and along the ***northern Atlantic Coast***, while below-normal precipitation is forecast for the ***Gulf and Southern Atlantic States, Southwest, and Great Lakes region***. Below-normal temperatures are expected across the ***eastern half of the Nation***, while near-normal readings are expected in the ***West***.

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